

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 1, line 4 with the following:

C₂ --The invention relates to a shaft drive unit, in particular an electrical drive unit for driving a wheel shaft with a transverse shaft structure, ~~in detail having the features of the preamble of claim 1.~~---

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 1, line 8 with the following:

C₃ --A large number of embodiments are known for the design configuration and construction of electrical drives for vehicles, in particular hybrid drives for vehicles. Embodiments for driving a front wheel shaft of a vehicle are in this case preferably designed using a transverse shaft structure. The shaft drive unit in this case comprises an electrical drive machine which can be operated as an electric motor in the traction mode and is connected to the wheel shaft via a transmission unit. The power for operating the electrical drive machine is provided via a power supply system which, depending on the choice of energy source, may have various configurations. Referring to Figure 1, there is seen a power system in the form of an internal combustion engine 100 mechanically and electrically coupled to an electrical machine 1 according to the present invention via a mechanical connection 105, and a fuel cell 110 electrically connected to the electrical machine 1 via electrical connection 115. It is in this case feasible for the power source to be in the form of an internal combustion engine an energy storage unit or what is referred to as a fuel cell. In each case, means are required for transmitting the power to the electrical drive machine. In order to control the electrical drive machine, it has at least one converter unit associated with it, which converter units determine the magnitude of the torque and rotation speed which can be delivered from the rotor of the electrical drive machine.--.

Please insert the following before the paragraph beginning on page 1, line 8:

C₄ --BACKGROUND INFORMATION--

Please insert the following before the paragraph beginning on page 4, line 10:

C₅

--SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION--

Please insert the following before the paragraph beginning on page 15, line 11:

C₆

--BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS--

Please insert the following before the paragraph beginning on page 15, line 17:

C₇

--DETAILED DESCRIPTION--